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SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 21

Vancouver metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015 | High 14°C/Low 7°C Partly cloudy

WE REMEMBER
ONE YEAR AFTER ATTACK ON PARLIAMENT HILL
metroNEWS

Eye in the Sky

Scientists use drone to monitor orca pods

metroNEWS

COURTESY VANCOUVER AQUARIUM/NOAA FISHERIES

Homeless defeat city in court

ABBOTSFORD

Judge decides rules against camps in park violate rights

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

A judge has sided with the homeless and rejected the City of Abbotsford's application for a permanent injunction against the homeless camp in Jubilee Park.

B.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson ruled Wednesday — after two years of conflict between the city, its homeless population and advocates — that Abbotsford bylaws preventing people from sleeping in public parks overnight and erecting temporary shelter violates their "right to life, liberty and security of the person."

Hinkson acknowledged "there is insufficient accessible shelter space in the city to house all of the city's homeless persons" and declared people may erect shelters at the park between 7 p.m. and 9 a.m.

"Allowing the city's homeless to set up shelters overnight while taking them down during the day would reasonably balance the needs of the homeless and the rights of other residents of the city," Hinkson wrote.

Pivot Legal Society lawyer DJ Larkin, who represented the homeless on behalf of the B.C./Yukon Association of Drug War Survivors, said the decision is a "massive vindication" for people who find themselves on the streets, criminalized and displaced for being homeless.

> **"Municipalities all over this country need to take a good long look at their bylaws, because they're not constitutional.**
> DJ Larkin

"(The decision) gives people the right to sleep in a park overnight if they have to and set up a survival shelter. People need that right because they need someplace safe to be," said Larkin.

Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun said the city is still reviewing the decision but wants to make sure city bylaws comply with the law.

"The ruling appears to be fairly consistent to what is going on in other municipalities," said Braun.

He insists the city is making strides in addressing homelessness. In addition to existing shelter spaces, BC Housing is building a 50-bed facility, and the city has hired a homelessness co-ordinator and added social workers on the ground.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Real-life 'Death Star' destroying a solar system, astronomers say. **World**

A cyclist rides by the Vancouver viaducts in August 2015.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Support grows to raze viaducts

INFRASTRUCTURE

Scales appear tipped in favour of demolition

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouverites aren't universally sold on demolishing the Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts as council is poised to determine their future — an infrastructure decision that could forever change the city's east side and False Creek neighbourhoods.

More than 45 people signed up to speak at a council meeting Wednesday in an attempt to sway council before they decide whether to tear 'em down next week.

Not all had spoken by Metro's deadline, but the scales seemed tipped in favour of getting rid of the elevated roadways. Several citizens expressed optimism at the possibilities going forward, including the chance to build a park, finish the seawall and create a walkable area. The Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association gave its full support.

Others see it as an opportunity to get rid of the only segment of the defeated 1960s freeway project and to right a past wrong with the black community that was displaced to construct the viaducts. SFU urban studies student Stephanie Allen and writer Wayde Compton encouraged the city to consult the black community on how to recognize Hogan's Alley after the demolition, be it with art or a community facility. (The man who runs the Jimi Hendrix shrine wants to build a statue.)

Critics of the plan argued it will lead to gentrification and won't deliver the long-promised Creekside Park quickly enough. Carnegie Community Action Project representative Maria Wallstam expressed concerns about the lack of social housing and the potential displacement of low-income residents if rents rise around the new condos.

> **This will define the evolution of Concord and how we've become more creative in our thinking**
> Concord Pacific vice-president Peter Webb

Some urged council to leave the viaducts up until they come up with a better plan to divert traffic off Prior, which hinges partly on yet-to-be-secured federal funding to build a new connector on Malkin or National. Strathcona residents are particularly worried about safety on Prior and want a firm commitment from council to re-route traffic.

John Murray, director of the False Creek Residents Association, questioned whether residents will actually get a bigger park if the viaducts are removed. The new map simply shows a reconfigured park, he argued, and it won't be adequate for the thousands of extra residents.

Developer Concord Pacific stands to nearly double its density if council removes the viaducts. Vice-president Peter Webb said the removal would trigger a rezoning application so Concord can complete its final patch of Expo '86 land along False Creek.

"This is it. This will define the evolution of Concord and how we've become more creative in our thinking," Webb said.

Its goal is to deliver as much of the park as early as possible, with the seawall and Georgia Wharf first on the list. (It'll be a "show stopper.")

Concord is ready to negotiate with the city over how much it will pay in community amenity contributions for the extra density — a similar project netted the city $148 million — and how much will go to benefits such as affordable housing, Webb said.

"We don't see this as a highly exclusive neighbourhood that we just sell for a fortune and wander off," he said.

Council is expected to vote on the removal on Tuesday.

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An aerial image taken by a drone showing an adult female southern resident orca L94 nursing her calf. COURTESY VANCOUVER AQUARIUM/NOAA FISHERIES

'It's an incredible photograph'

MARINE BIOLOGY

Images give researchers a new look at whale activity

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

After seeing the rich detail of an aerial photo capturing the tender moment of an orca mother nursing her calf off the British Columbia coast, biologist John Durban says he was blown away.

The stunning image is just one of thousands recently taken by a joint team of researchers at the Vancouver Aquarium and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who are using a drone to take photos of the orcas in an effort to assess their body condition and health.

"It's an incredible photograph," NOAA biologist Durban told reporters at a news conference Wednesday to discuss the study's findings. "It's just a view we don't get when you're in the boat and you're not close to the whale."

The project marks the first time scientists have used a drone to take photos of the southern resident and northern resident orcas in order to measure their growth and determine which ones are healthy, malnourished or even pregnant.

> **It's just a view we don't get when you're in the boat and you're not close to the whale.**
> NOAA biologist John Durban

Scientists have been keeping a keen eye on the southern resident orcas, which are listed as endangered under the Species at Risk Act. Southern residents prefer to eat Chinook salmon, as well as some other types of fish, but a reduction in the availability of prey has threatened the animals' recovery.

After two record Chinook runs, however, aerial images of the orcas taken over the summer reveal promising news. The scientists found the southern resident orcas are not only robust but several appear to be pregnant.

Using the drone, the scientists also captured rare photos of the orcas feeding, nursing their calves, and sharing food with each other.

"This is really big," said Lance Barrett-Lennard, head of the cetacean research program at the Vancouver Aquarium. "From the air, we can clearly see whales catching fish, carrying them around for a little while and then handing them off to another killer whale."

To carry out the research, the scientists worked with engineers to build a custom drone, called a hexacopter, which uses six propellers that allow a high-resolution camera to remain stable and take crisp images. The scientists fly the drone for about 20 minutes at a time at a height of about 30 metres.

While scientists have taken aerial photos of orcas before using helicopters, the drone allows them to get a much closer look at the animals without disturbing them.

NOAA biologist Holly Fearnbach, who monitored a live video feed from the camera, said the whales didn't appear to notice the drone.

"They never rolled over and looked up," she said. "Even when we were quite lower than our normal altitude … we saw no response from the whales."

Now that the scientists have established a baseline of the orcas' health, they hope to use the drone to continue to monitor the animals for several years.

After months of unusually warm ocean temperatures combined with this winter's El Nino, Barrett-Lennard said the team is anticipating poor returns for upcoming Chinook salmon runs, which they say will likely have a negative impact on the southern resident orcas.

"Southern residents … really need a very close eye," he said. "We'll watch them like a hawk and see what happens."

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NORTH VANCOUVER

First-degree murder charge laid in fatal kidnapping

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

One of the four men involved in the alleged kidnapping and murder of a 22-year-old man in North Vancouver has been charged with one count of first-degree murder.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team charged Richmond resident Tian Yi Zhang, 23, with first-degree murder, according to a Wednesday statement.

Zhang, who has also been charged with kidnapping and indignity to a body in relation to the Sept. 29 death, remains in custody after a Tuesday court appearance.

RCMP detachments and police from across the Lower Mainland were involved in the investigation into the alleged kidnapping. The victim's identity and cause of death have not been released to protect the integrity of the case.

While investigators remain tight lipped about the case, police previously assured the public that the incident was targeted.

Casey Hiscoe, 21, Dyllan Green, 20, and Jacob Gorelik, 18, also face charges for indignity to a body related to the incident. Hiscoe was also charged with kidnapping.

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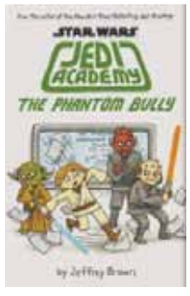

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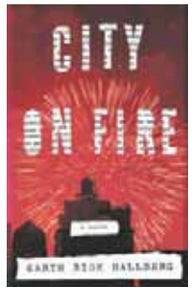

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Flu shots on offer by Coastal Health

VACCINATION

Call is out for seniors, babies and young kids in particular

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Flu shots are available at Vancouver Coastal Health public health flu clinics, doctors' offices, pharmacies, walk-in clinics and travel clinics around the Lower Mainland as of Wednesday.

The health authority has about 425,000 doses of the flu vaccine available and is encouraging people — especially seniors, young children and babies — to get their shots that this year protect against H1N1, H3N2 and a new B strain.

"We're encouraging everyone to get a flu shot so you're not only protecting yourself, but also the high-risk people around you," VCH medical health officer Dr. Meena Dawar said in a statement.

Outbreaks already

Dawar asks people to get their flu shots as soon as possible since outbreaks have already been reported at local nursing homes.

The shot is free for children under five, seniors, pregnant women, aboriginal people, people with compromised immune systems and those who live or work with a high-risk person.

People who don't get the flu shot will be asked to wear masks at all health-care facilities as of Dec. 1.

Between 4,000 and 8,000 Canadians die annually from flu-related complications, according to Vancouver Coastal Health. The vast majority are seniors.

The flu is very contagious and can be spread for up to 24 hours before symptoms appear.

Flu shots work by exposing people to an inactivated virus so they can develop antibodies that protect against specific viruses. The most common side effect is a sore arm.

Nurse Marion Guenther immunizes VCH chief medical health officer Dr. Patricia Daly on Wednesday. COURTESY VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH

IN BRIEF

Tsilhqot'in, province talks to focus on mill, moose

Restarting a sawmill and rebuilding moose populations in British Columbia's Interior are now the focus of reconciliation talks between the provincial government and Tsilhqot'in Nation.

The talks began last year after the Tsilhqot'in won in court title to 1,750 square kilometres of land in the remote Nemiah Valley.

Aboriginal Relations Minister John Rustad says both sides have signed a letter of intent, paving the way for the next stage of discussions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Homicide team seeks public's help

B.C. homicide investigators need the public's help in the case of a 26-year-old man who was found dead on a remote logging road north of Mission in early October.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team identified the man as David Urquhart, whose death is considered suspicious.

On Wednesday, police called on anyone who knew Urquhart to help investigators piece together his whereabouts before he was last seen in Maple Ridge in late August. Urquhart frequented Chilliwack, Abbotsford and Mission before he was reported missing on Aug. 31, according to police.

"It will take the help of the public and the people who knew him to determine his actions prior to his death," IHIT spokeswoman Sgt. Stephanie Ashton said in a statement.

The area where Urquart was found is popular with hunters and target shooters, Ashton said. She appealed to anyone who saw something suspicious or out of the ordinary while in the Noorish Creek Road area in late August or early September to contact IHIT at 1-877-551-4448 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

MUSIC CAILLAT LENDS STAR POWER TO WE DAY Grammy Award-winning pop singer and songwriter Colbie Caillat performs for 20,000 students and educators at WE Day Vancouver at the Rogers Arena on Wednesday. COURTESY WINNIE SUN/FREE THE CHILDREN

Trade delegation includes royalty

ECONOMY

Belgium's Princess Astrid part of mission to B.C., Alberta

British Columbia and Alberta will host a royal business trip with a visit from Belgium's Princess Astrid and more than 200 business and state leaders from the European country.

The delegation makes stops in Vancouver and Calgary during the week-long visit, starting on Sunday.

Canada and the European Union reached a free trade deal earlier this year and Raoul Delcorde, the Belgian ambassador to Canada, said Belgians view B.C. as an ideal place to launch business opportunities into the Asia-Pacific region.

"This is a very timely economic mission because of the new perspectives that the Canada-EU free trade agreement is going to open," said Delcorde in a statement.

"British Columbia could become a bridge for our Belgian companies wanting to develop their operations in the Asia-Pacific region, and Belgium could become a bridge to Europe's large market for many companies from British Columbia."

International Trade Minister Teresa Wat said the European Union is B.C.'s fifth largest export market and the Belgian port of Antwerp is a major point of entry for Canadian goods into Europe. She said in a statement B.C. is confident the visit will strengthen trade ties and build co-operation between the partners.

Belgium's Foreign Trade Agency says the mission includes officials from ports, chambers of commerce and more than 100 businesses, including liquefied natural gas, shipping, film, technology, research, agriculture and manufacturing.

While in Vancouver, the Belgian delegates will visit Vancouver's Aquarium, fuel-cell innovator Ballard Power Systems, power-solutions company Alpha Technologies and ASCO Aerospace Canada.

The delegates will participate in seminars examining the Canada-EU trade deal, including investing in the Belgian film industry. They will also meet B.C. Finance Minister Mike de Jong and Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Fruitful holiday ends for bear in pear tree

A pear-loving black bear has climbed down from its perch in a huge pear tree, near Chilliwack. The little bruin, dubbed Pear Bear, settled in the tree several weeks ago and there was concern it was stuck. Conservation officers set up a live trap near the base of the tree, hoping to catch and relocate the bear. It ignored the trap and instead wandered back into the bush sometime Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SENTENCING

Crown appeals refusal by judge

A B.C. judge's decision that a mandatory-minimum sentence for a gun conviction was "grossly disproportionate" and violated a man's charter rights will be appealed by prosecutors.

The Criminal Justice Branch announced Wednesday it is appealing the sentence given to Jeffrey Oud, who was convicted of reckless use of a firearm for discharging a rifle at a house, grazing one person and narrowly missing others inside.

The Crown asked for a five- to seven-year prison term, but Justice Robin Baird sentenced Oud to four years, ruling there was no justification under the constitution for such a long term.

Baird said in his ruling that the prison term was adequate for a first-time offence for a man who had a solid work history, a good family and who has sworn off drugs and stayed clean.

The branch said there were errors in the judgment and the public interest requires an appeal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TransLink service rating dips

TRANSPORTATION

Survey done around the time of two major disruptions

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

TransLink's overall service rating is down five per cent, according to a customer survey.

The transportation authority posted its second-quarter Customer Service Performance study online this week, finding that "ratings for overall transit service have significantly decreased from a year ago."

The study, conducted by Ipsos Reid, tracks consumer ratings on various parts of TransLink's system.

Overall, the study says the number of people that rank TransLink's service as "good-to-excellent" dropped to 57 per cent in Q2 2015. That's down from 62 per cent in Q2 2014.

Commuters wait outside Waterfront Station on June 9 during a SkyTrain stoppage. EMILY JACKSON/METRO FILE

The average rating for TransLink's overall service was 7.5 out of 10.

Ipsos Reid classifies a rating of 7.0 or higher as positive.

The percentage of good-to-excellent ratings for bus and SkyTrain service dropped four and one per cent, respectively, over the year before.

The amount of good-to-excellent SeaBus service ratings went up three per cent.

TransLink spokesman Chris Bryan said the quarterly surveys, which also ask customers to rate things like overcrowding on specific bus routes, help the authority make service adjustments and address emerging concerns.

"This is important information for us," Bryan said.

Coupled with data from its customer information department, the survey "tells us what is working and what isn't working," he said.

For example, the quarterly reports have been used in the past to address overcrowding and cleanliness issues on certain routes, Bryan said.

The average 7.5 rating for overall service is consistent with previous surveys.

The latest report specifically mentions that this survey was conducted when the SkyTrain suffered two major service disruptions May 22 and June 9.

Because of that, Ipsos Reid cautions, "Some service ratings might have been affected this quarter."

57 per cent

TransLink's overall service rating as "good-to-excellent" dropped to 57 per cent this year from 62 per cent a year ago. Scores for bus and SkyTrain services decreased, while the rating for SeaBus service experienced an increase.
SOURCE: IPSOS REID

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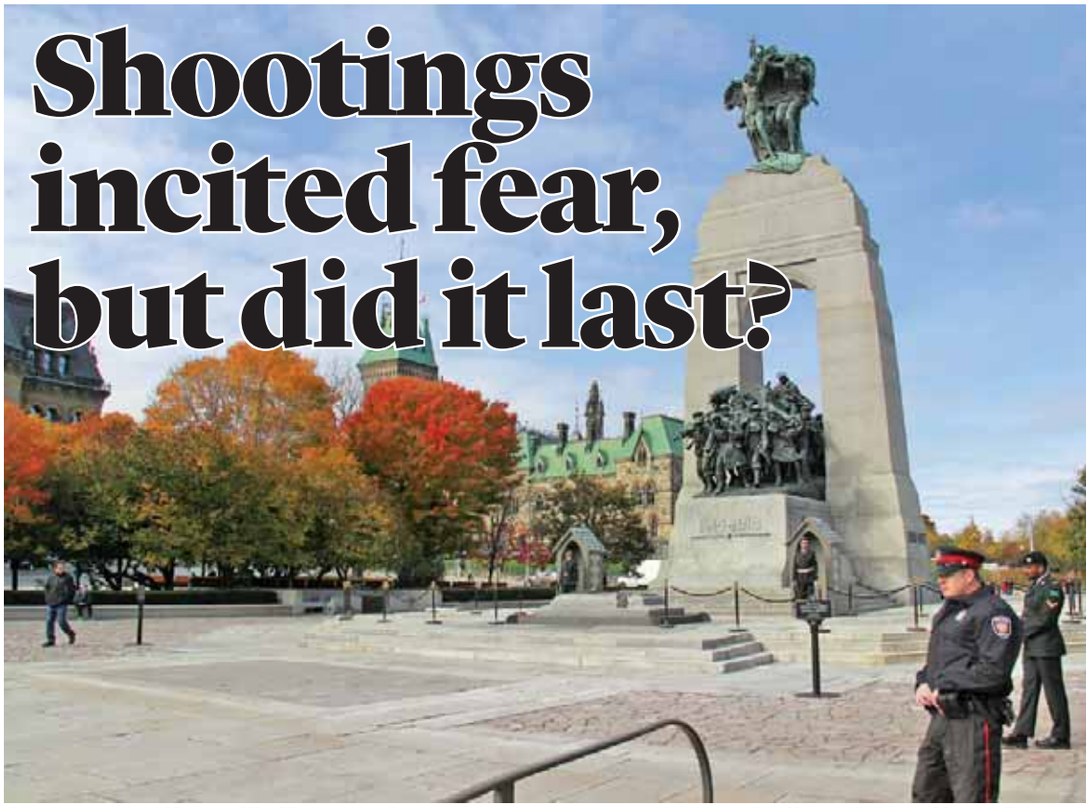
Shootings incited fear, but did it last?



Officers patrol the National War Memorial in Ottawa, the scene of the shooting death of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo by Michael Zehaf Bibeau. JOE LOFARO/METRO OTTAWA

POLITICS

Election result suggests Canada is not more insular

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

When the House of Commons reconvened the day after last year's attack on Parliament Hill and the National War Memorial by a lone gunman, there was a new level of collegiality among MPs.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper advised his colleagues to take care of their health. He and his opponents, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, all exchanged hugs.

But there were also early hints the shootings — which happened one year ago Thursday — would change things.

"In recent weeks, I have been saying that our laws and police powers need to be strengthened in the area of surveillance, detention, and arrest," Harper told MPs. "I assure members that work, which is already underway, will be expedited."

Mulcair mentioned the weekly yoga session on the lawn of Parliament Hill as a symbol of the country's openness and freedom.

"We cannot allow that openness and freedom to be rolled back," Mulcair said. Trudeau made similar remarks.

> **Our laws and police powers need to be strengthened in the area of surveillance, detention, and arrest.**
>
> Now-outgoing Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Yoga didn't go away. But security at Parliament Hill has been beefed up, and responsibility has been transferred to the RCMP.

The Conservatives passed Bill C-51, their controversial anti-terror legislation that gave the country's security agencies more power to share information and disrupt potential terror plots, among other things. The Liberals supported it, but Trudeau said his party would amend it.

The election campaign saw issues such as the Government's wish to strip convicted terrorists of their Canadian citizenship.

But the result has perhaps shown that Canada has not become a more fearful and insular society since the shooting, with voters turning away from a Conservative party that campaigned on security in favour of a Liberal party that preached "sunny ways," as Trudeau said in his victory speech on Monday.

REMEMBERING

Ups and downs punctuate past year

Strangers to each other became bound by the unimaginable tragedy on Oct. 22, 2014, when a gunman went on a deadly rampage in Canada's quiet capital.

As the country marks the one-year anniversary of the fatal shooting of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, Martin Magnan has been thinking about that awful day.

Magnan didn't have first aid training, but he didn't back down from helping those who did.

Cpl. Kyle Button instructed Magnan, a communications adviser for DND at the time, to lift Cirillo's legs to keep the blood flowing into the soldier's torso.

Magnan and five others who came to Cirillo's side that day were awarded the St. John Ambulance Service's highest honour, the gold Life Saving Medal, in June.

"It's part of me, it's part of my history. And it's made me a better person, I hope. I've had my ups and downs," Magnan said. JOE LOFARO/METRO OTTAWA

A member of the Canadian Forces salutes at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Ottawa on Wednesday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

DEMOCRACY

Reform of election system on the way

Big electoral changes loom for Canada.

Prime-minister-designate Justin Trudeau has promised Monday's election would be the final one conducted using the traditional first-past-the-post system.

That means the "winner-takes-all" way Canadian voters have always elected their MPs will be changed in time for the 2019 federal campaign.

"It was one of our commitments that this would be the last election based on this process," Trudeau told reporters in Ottawa on Tuesday.

"We have much work to do, to consult, to be engaged with Canadians, to study the issue so that upcoming elections are indeed done in a different way," he said in French.

Trudeau made his comments even though his Liberals won 184 seats in the 338-member Commons — or 54.4 per cent — with just 39.5 per cent of the popular vote.

Many electoral reform advocates would like to see proportional representation, currently in place in Germany and New Zealand.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Justin Trudeau in Ottawa. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ASTRONOMY

Astronomers find real-life Death Star

A white dwarf star in the Constellation Virgo turns out to be a Death Star worthy of Star Wars.

Astronomers announced Wednesday that they discovered a rocky object coming apart in a death spiral around the star. They used NASA's exoplanet-hunting Kepler spacecraft to make the discovery, then followed up with ground observations.

"This is something no human has seen before," said Andrew Vanderburg of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, the lead author.

"We're watching a solar system get destroyed."

The data show the object in an orbit 520,000 miles (837,000 kilometres) from the white dwarf — the approximate distance from the Earth to the moon, and back.

Scientists believe the original object may have been a planet whose orbit became unstable, and was kicked inward.

The fictional Death Star of "Star Wars" fame was the Empire's monstrously big space arsenal capable of destroying an entire planet.

The findings are being published this week in the journal Nature. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A rendering showing an asteroid slowly disintegrating as it orbits a white dwarf star. HARVARD-SMITHSONIAN CENTER FOR ASTROPHYSICS

IN BRIEF

Israel's Netanyahu draws ire for WWII accusation

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sparked an uproar on Wednesday for suggesting that a WW II Palestinian leader persuaded the Nazis to adopt their Final Solution to exterminate six million Jews.

Holocaust experts and survivors said the comments are inaccurate and lessens the Adolf Hitler and the Nazis' responsibility.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Joe Biden not running for U.S. presidency in 2016

Vice-President Joe Biden declared Wednesday he won't run for president in 2016.

The decision bolsters Hillary Rodham Clinton's standing as the front-runner.

During an appearance in the White House Rose Garden, Biden cited his son Beau's recent death from brain cancer as one of the reasons behind the decision.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Groups of migrants struggle to make their way across the Balkans in Europe. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Refugees continue to pour into Slovenia

CRISIS

Slovenia lobbies EU leaders for financial and security aid

After too many days and nights stuck outside in the rain and cold, tempers are fraying among the tens of thousands of migrants trying to get through the Balkans to the heart of Europe.

A fire at the main refugee camp on Slovenia's border with Croatia destroyed a dozen army-issue tents Wednesday.

While the government said it was still investigating the cause, police at the scene told The Associated Press that migrants had set a stack of UNHCR-supplied blankets deliberately on fire to protest conditions in the camp on the outskirts of Brezice.

Many migrants from the Middle East, Asia and Africa expressed bewilderment and disappointment because they had been told as they began their journeys in Turkey that the hard part would end once they reached the EU.

"We did not think Europe is like this: no respect for refugees, not treating us with dignity. Why is Europe like this?" said Iraqi refugee Ari Omar in Slovenia.

21,500

More than 21,500 refugees have crossed to Slovenia since Hungary closed its borders with Croatia five days ago.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More than 21,500 people have crossed that frontier in the five days since Hungary — the previous favoured EU entry point for migrants crossing the Balkans — closed its borders with Croatia and forced the human tide further west into Slovenia.

The Alpine country of barely two million says it can't cope with the volume of human traffic and have been seeking help.

Reflecting Slovenia's lack of sufficient shelters, more than 3,000 people who crossed the border Wednesday night were ordered to sit in cornfields, surrounded by police and soldiers, until buses could deliver them north to Austria.

Slovenia president Borut Pahor has spent the past two days in Brussels lobbying EU leaders for financial and security aid.

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Soul SX Luxury shown‡

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Certain conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. **Representative Financing Example:** Financing offer available on approved credit (0AC), on a new 2015 Forte Sedan LX MT (F054IF) with a selling price of $17,552 is based on monthly payments of $173 for 84 months at 0% with a $0 down payment and first monthly payment due at finance inception. Offer also includes $3,000 cash discount. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. **'Cash Purchase Price** for the new 2015 Rondo LX Value AT (RN75AF)/2015 Optima LX AT (OP74AF)/2015 Optima Hybrid LX AT (OP74AF) is $19,997/$20,952/$24,752 and includes a cash discount of $5,235 including $5,000 cash discount and $235 dealer participation/$5,500/$7,000 including $6,000 cash discount and $1,000 ECO credit. Dealer may sell for less. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Cash discounts vary by model and trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. **ΩRepresentative Leasing Example:** Lease offer available on approved credit (0AC), on new 2016 Sorento 2.4L LX FWD (SR75AG)/2015 Soul 1.6L LX AT (S0752F) with a selling price of $29,332/$21,532 is based on monthly payments of $290/$170 for 60/60 months at 1.9%/0%, $0 security deposit, $500/$1,000 lease credit, $1,800/$850 down payment and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $17,425/$10,218 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $11,431/$9,464. Lease has 16,000 km/yr allowance (other packages available and $0.12/km for excess kilometres). ΩΩLease payments must be made on a monthly or bi-weekly basis but cannot be made on a weekly basis. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only. ‡Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Soul SX Luxury (S0758F)/2015 Rondo EX Luxury (RN756F)/2015 Optima SX Turbo AT (OP748F)/2016 Sorento SX Turbo AWD (SR75HG) is $27,295/$32,295/$34,895/$42,095. The Kia Soul received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact multi-purpose vehicles in the proprietary J.D. Power 2015 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 84,367 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 244 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of U.S. owners surveyed from February to May 2015. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. The Kia Sorento received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among midsize SUVs in the proprietary J.D. Power 2015 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 84,367 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 244 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of U.S. owners surveyed from February to May 2015. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. The 2015 Rio/2015 Forte/2015 Rondo were awarded with the Clef d'or "Best in Class" by L'Annuel de l'automobile 2015. Visit www.annuelauto.com for all the details. The 2016 Sorento/2015 Optima/2015 Sedona/2015 Soul were awarded the 2015 Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) for model year 2016/2015/2015/2015. U.S. models tested. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). 2015 Kia Soul awarded ALG Residual Value Award for highest resale value in its class. Based on ALG's residual value forecast for the 2015 model year. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. The all-new 2016 Kia Sorento was awarded the 'iF Design Award' for its outstanding design. The 'iF Design Award' is one of the world's most important prizes for excellence in design, www.ifdesign.de. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

ECONOMY

BoC keeps rate low, sees slower growth

The Bank of Canada lowered its economic growth forecasts for 2016 and 2017 on Wednesday as it stood firm on its trend-setting interest rate.

The central bank maintained its July estimate for 2015 economic growth but downgraded projections for the next two years, blaming the hits to business investment and resource exports from persistently low commodity prices.

The bank maintained its July forecast that the economy will grow by 1.1 per cent in 2015.

The report presented a revised growth projection for 2016 of two per cent, down from 2.3 per cent, and a 2017 forecast of 2.5 per cent, down from 2.6.

In explaining its decision to keep its overnight rate at 0.5 per cent, the bank noted that inflation and economic activity was largely unfolding as predicted, even as low oil prices continue to weigh on the economy. It said the country's economy is bouncing back from the technical recession that kicked off 2015.

The central bank once again pointed to robust household spending as the key driver of Canada's economic activity.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank of Canada governor Stephen Poloz addresses a press conference in Ottawa on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canada mid-pack in G7 on coal phase-out policies

A study by climate think-tank E3G and commissioned by environmental groups puts Canada in fourth place among the Group of Seven industrial countries when it comes to dealing with coal-fired power plants. The report shows Japan as the clear laggard because of its plans to add significant coal generating capacity. Canada is praised for Ontario's success in eliminating coal power plants and Alberta's commitment to speed its phase-out of coal use. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Robert Kyncl, YouTube's chief business officer, speaks as the company unveils YouTube Red, a new subscription service, on Wednesday, in Los Angeles. DANNY MOLOSHOK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YouTube unveils an ad-free service

INTERNET

Plan offers music, videos and movies for $10 a month

YouTube is launching a subscription plan in the U.S. called Red that combines ad-free videos, new original series and movies from top YouTubers like PewDiePie, and on-demand unlimited streaming music for $10 US a month.

Red builds on Google's existing music streaming service by providing ad-free access to YouTube programming, along with features such as the ability to download videos to mobile devices and have music playing in the background while using other mobile apps.

Current subscribers to the $10 US-a-month Google Play Music service will also get access to Red.

The service will not be available in Canada when it launches.

Red targets YouTube fans who want to skip ads, while giving them a chance to pass along some cash to their favourite video creators, who'll share in the new revenues. It comes as streaming services like Hulu, Pandora, Spotify and TuneIn offer ad-free as a paid option.

$54.6 million

Internet radio giant Pandora Media made $54.6 million US on subscription and other revenue in the quarter through June, mainly from its $5-a-month ad-free plan, Pandora One.

The plan, which launches Oct. 28, includes exclusive access to new videos launching next year, as well as the YouTube Music Key service — to be called YouTube Music going forward — for music videos.

Red could help boost the ranks of Google Play music subscribers, which stood at around 815,000 in the U.S. at the end of last December, according to royalty tracking firm Audiam.

That's far short of leader Spotify with 20 million paying subscribers globally. Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook told a technology conference this week that Apple Music has 6.5 million paying subscribers and millions more still on free trials following its launch at the end of June.

YouTube is part of Google, a division of the newly created holding company Alphabet Inc.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, October 22, 2015

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON TRUDEAU'S CABINET

"Over and above all other choices, the new prime minister's picks for the finance and environment portfolios are the ones that stand to define his rookie government.

The cabinet Justin Trudeau unveils on Nov. 4 will have to hit the ground running.

From recasting Canada in the anti-ISIL international coalition, to deciding the fate of the just-negotiated Trans-Pacific Partnership, to beating a ticking Supreme Court clock on medically assisted suicide, to rewriting the Conservative anti-terrorism legislation and setting up an inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women, many of the items on the incoming government's to-do list are time-sensitive.

On Tuesday, Trudeau said he expected his future ministers to be "actual deciders." Time will tell how much real autonomy that job description will entail. What is certain is that the men and women who make up the first Liberal cabinet in a decade will all have their work cut out for them clearing an overloaded policy agenda.

Over and above all other cabinet choices, Trudeau's picks for the finance and environment portfolios are the ones that stand to define his rookie government. Here's why.

By definition, the finance minister comes second only to the prime minister in the cabinet pecking order. There is no margin of error in selecting the right person for the job, for one cannot change finance ministers like one changes shirts.

When Stephen Harper first came to power, Jim Flaherty had the inside track on the finance post, and picking Paul Martin was a no-brainer for Jean Chrétien.

In contrast with his predecessors, Trudeau has a variety of routes he could take. Some are more adventurous than others.

The Liberal leader wants to appoint an equal number of men and women to his cabinet. In the past, the promise to make more room at the top for women has mostly translated into filling the bottom tier of the cabinet with female ministers while leaving the front-line portfolios in male hands.

Canada has never had a female finance minister. To show he means business on gender parity, Trudeau could pick an economics-savvy former journalist such as University-Rosedale MP Chrystia Freeland.

Quebec was a bit player in Harper's three governments. Appointing one of his fellow Quebecers to finance would reinforce the message that the province is back at the big table. Economist Jean-Yves Duclos — who managed to get elected in the Quebec City Conservative heartland on Monday — has strong credentials for the post.

Toronto-Centre MP Bill Morneau is both an experienced Bay Street figure and a fresh face on Parliament Hill. His appointment would reassure corporate Canada that there will continue to be open channels between it and the new government without diluting Trudeau's change message.

A trio of veteran parliamentarians with hands-on experience in government in the shape of Ralph Goodale, John McCallum and Scott Brison round out the "safe" section of the list.

There is no such competition for the environment portfolio. If Trudeau is serious about dusting off the climate-change file, he will reappoint Stéphane Dion to his previous ministerial brief.

Little would send the international community the message that Canada is back in the climate-change battle more loudly than the return of the last federal minister to have played a constructive role on the issue on the world stage.

In contrast with finance, the place of the environmental file on a government's radar is proportional to the influence of its ministerial keeper. A former party leader, Dion has the gravitas to ensure the environment brief is not (again) shoved off the table.

The pipeline debate is where Quebec's sovereigntist leadership has determined to draw its latest line in the sand. Dion fought and won a war of words on the rules of a future referendum against more articulate sovereigntist champions than the current ones.

Trudeau has long argued that a lack of social licence accounted for the Conservative failure to get a single pipeline project off the drawing board. A strong pro-environment voice in the top tier of the cabinet is a precondition to restoring public confidence in the pipeline approval process.

It won't be hard for Trudeau to find a more inspiring finance minister than Joe Oliver turned out to be in the dying years of the Harper reign.

But on his choice of an environment minister, the Liberal prime-minister-elect will be held to a higher standard.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: Punny literary treats

What happens when you cross Cervantes' masterpiece with an egg pie? Why, Don Quiche-ote, of course. That highly literary brunch dish is part of a veritable buffet of foods being served up at local libraries across North America. "Edible books" (in the metaphorical sense, of course) are a way to promote rediscovery of classic works and bring people together at the same time. The trend — which is riding the wave of pun-love flooding the Internet lately — has spawned creations such as All is Quiet on the Western Bundt (cake), a Tequila Mockingbird cocktail and a tribute to Hemingway's A Farewell To Arms featuring a double-amputee gingerbread man.

SOURCE: BUSTLE

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

A poet laureate is timeless and necessary in the digital age

When Anne Michaels is speaking carefully, the poet and author of the novel Fugitive Pieces puts her right hand to her forehead and gazes down.

When the words flow more quickly, she's likely looking at you with spirited eyes, maybe pushing a great wave of hair back off her face, as if to press her thoughts forward.

In 2015, in Toronto, a city of millions, the writer has a new title and a pressing question: what difference can one poet laureate make?

"I see it as a mandate to do something of value — small value, quiet value — but something of value," she says. And then she admits to hashing ambitious plans for her three-year tenure, city-wide events still too fledgling to name.

I'll be honest: when I heard Michaels had been selected, it made me care, for the first time, that poet laureates still exist. And even now that someone I admire holds the title in Toronto, it seems an incongruous role in the digital age. What does an old-fashioned figurehead role have to do with our lives — lived half digitally, outside the reach of geography altogether?

The poet laureate is a champion of all literature, Michaels tells me, and "language is how we speak out. It's our great hope, I think, so you can scold and excoriate and celebrate."

Poetry can seem destined for few and elevated shelves, the purview of devotees and no one else. But that is not how Michaels sees it.

It is "combustible" language, naturally anarchic and not necessarily bound in a book. It's a shot, a slash of graffiti on a building, anti-status quo, under the radar, a voice out loud alone in a room.

Her own writing often focuses on the dark, hard experiences of life. She says it's important "to go to those places that are incredibly difficult to look at, and then to see whether one can come out the other side, what can be made of that."

It is solitary work. But the role of a poet laureate is not. With collaborators at the City of Toronto, she intends to seek out all the layers of people here, their voices and languages.

"I mean, we're surrounded by languages, and every language here has a literature, so why aren't we bringing that forward somehow?" she asks.

There is a certain sense of helplessness in our society, she says, and rage among people who feel disenfranchised. Perhaps a poet laureate can offer, through language, power.

At a time when the problems are so big, that seems not only timeless, but necessary. In that sense, there's nothing symbolic about it.

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Chris Rock returning to host the 2016 Oscars

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BOOKS

Tavi Gevinson on life in New York and Yearbook Four

Nichole Jankowski
Metro | Canada

Tuesday afternoon in New York, Tavi Gevinson was pacing outside her doctor's office near Broadway and 21st. Gevinson, 19, is in her first year at NYU and has kicked off the term with a fall book tour for her fourth and final instalment of Rookie Yearbook, a compendium of articles published on her Rookie Mag site.

On this bright October day, she's wearing "a big red sweatshirt" that reads 'Tuesday,' she says, speaking on her cellphone. "*Red*," she wrote in Sheila Heti's Women in Clothes, "*translates femininity to power.*"

She paired the sweatshirt with black pants ("pants are kind of new to me," the former style blogger says) and black ankle boots — black, "*the uniform of New Yorkers.*"

Gevinson landed in New York over a year ago, ahead of starring in Steppenwolf's Broadway revival of This Is Our Youth, for which she received rave reviews. The New York Times says Gevinson "nails exactly the aggressive defensiveness of a girl who sees boys as both the enemy and salvation."

With a full day ahead, Gevinson is pacing, waiting and carrying a blue — "*It is the sky, the water, and Joni Mitchell*" — leather school bag. Speaking to Metro, Gevinson references lyrics from Mitchell's 1976 song Amelia: People will tell you where they've gone / They'll tell you where to go / But till you get there yourself you never really know.

She is talking about what she's learned over the years from the contributors to her site, which publishes personal essays, informational and tongue-in-cheek how-tos, photography, art and celebrity interviews.

"The best feeling for me is when I can experience Rookie as a reader," says Gevinson. "I think that it really is affirming to just watch other people try and understand their own experiences and being as candid, earnest or ugly as they need to be in order to get to the truth of the matter."

Gevinson founded Rookie Mag when she was only 15 years old and feeling that we needed more complex depictions of women in media. An online haven for young women to learn, share and grow, it is the spiritual successor to '90s alternative teen magazine Sassy.

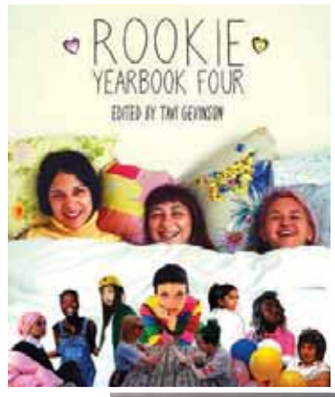
"I basically just tricked a bunch of people into giving me advice, and then published it for other people to see, too," says Gevinson. But for all its insight, the site has never been prescriptive. "Rookie is not your guide to Being a Teen. It is not a pamphlet on How to Be a Young Woman," wrote Gevinson in her first editorial letter.

Rookie is an advising big sister, a friend who always listens, someone to laugh and cry with. "For me, it's always been with Rookie trying to walk a line between not wanting to romanticize the pain and the angst and sometimes actual depression of being a teenager but also needing to find the upside of it," says Gevinson, which she admits is difficult. "There's nothing more annoying than saying 'Look on the bright side' or 'It gets better' to someone who's still in it."

Gevinson, who graduated high school before starting on Yearbook Four, is still in it. "I was trying to embrace the unknown," says Gevinson. "I'm a year ahead of Rookie. I was trying to enjoy that uncertainty and that void."

In her editor's letter she consoles readers that it does, in fact, get better, although some things do get worse.

"I do feel that (Yearbook's senior issue) is a lot more optimistic about growing up," adds Gevinson.



From fashion blogger to feminist icon, Gevinson has grown up online. PETRA COLLINS/CONTRIBUTED

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Fashion victims throughout history

INTERVIEW

Writer says style not given the rigorous look that it deserves

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Most of us have dealt with the pain of squeezing into a pair of too-tight jeans or nursed blisters from ill-fitting shoes. But imagine putting on a dress or hat, knowing very well it's coated in poison.

That's the reality that Alison Matthews David brings to light in her new illustrated book, Fashion Victims: The Dangers of Past and Present, a fascinating but gruesome look at how some of the most beautiful and stylish garments produced throughout Western history have also been the most lethal.

An associate professor at Ryerson University's school of fashion, Matthews David played detective, scientist and cultural anthropologist for 10 years, digging through international museum collections to uncover the dangerous side of clothing (an accompanying exhibition is on display at Toronto's Bata Shoe Museum until June 2016).

"People don't take fashion seriously in some ways," says Matthews David, who is currently researching a follow-up title on the connections between clothing, crime and forensics.

Published by Bloomsbury, Fashion Victims travels through the 19th and early 20th centuries, tracking the deadly mercury toxins found in men's fur felt hats (hence the Mad Hatter disease); strangulating scarves and fire-attracting crinolines; arsenic-laced emerald ball gowns and floral headpieces that caused horrific illnesses and wounds, and a coal-tar solution that dyed fabrics a gorgeous mauve, but left its makers and wearers exposed to a poisonous chemical soup.

"Fashion is not just about a vision, it's about our bodies," Matthews David says. "There was such a celebration over this amazing new dye, but it was also a giant chemistry experiment on the public. At the same time, you can't deny it's a beautiful colour."

What is striking about the era is that often there was a broad awareness of these dangers and yet people continued to wear the offending materials in the name of fashion. But Matthews David cautions against holding judgment, comparing the situation to modern-day lipstick, which is often riddled with lead.

"The social investment in wearing these things and in our appearance is so strong," she says. "I wear lipstick. I dye my hair as well, so it's not really fair to point fingers. But it made me think about my own decisions in terms of being a consumer of fashion and cosmetics."

When Matthews David visited the Victoria & Albert Museum in London to examine its collection, she discovered that the men's headwear was still so toxic, it was wrapped in Mylar bags and identified with a skull and crossbones.

"It made me think of the bodies of the historical fashion victims," she says. "As a researcher, I have this privileged, gloved, hands-on access to these objects, so I really got close and personal. It brought it home — I can safely look at them, but what about the people who made them?"

This is where Matthews David gets political. Have the horrific conditions and exposure to chemicals faced by garment workers in the 19th century improved much in today's global "fast fashion" market? Do we, as consumers, care?

"We're not as much in contact with the horrors of how things are made in unsanitary or dangerous conditions," says Matthews David. "But I hope that people will think a little more about what's in their own wardrobes after this."

I wear my lipstick. I dye my hair as well, so it's not really fair to point fingers.
Alison Matthews David

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

From fire-attracting crinolines to arsenic-laced emerald ball gowns, Fashion Victims gives a history of dangerous 20th-century designs. CONTRIBUTED

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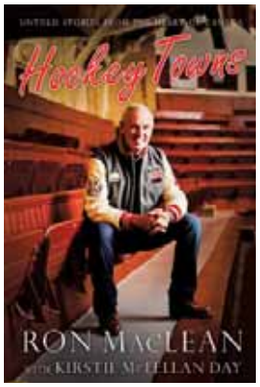
One Great Keeper in the Hands of Another



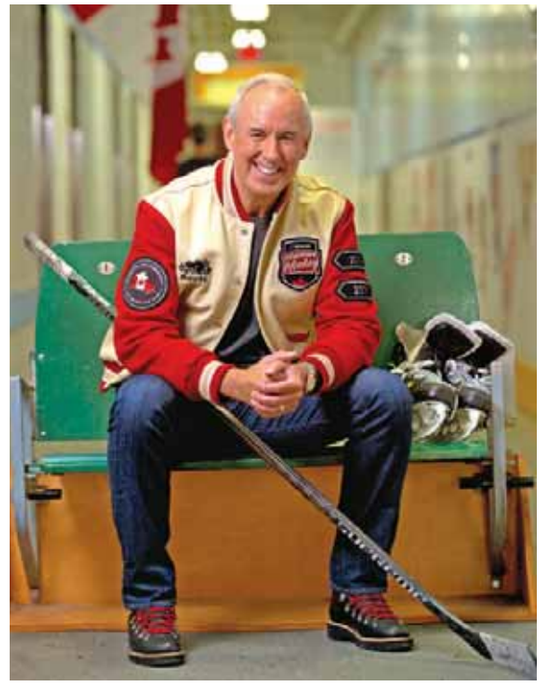
In Hockey Towns, Ron MacLean and co-author Kirstie McLellan Day tell some of the most interesting hockey stories from towns across Canada. In this excerpt, we are introduced to Ian Jenkins — "or Big E, as they call him" — a good-looking young man from London, Ont., who started skating at age two.

Ian Jenkins was a phenomenal fifteen-year-old midget goaltender. The Scouting News called him "the most effective 1995 goalie … in the system."

When he started in the net, his dad, Joel, would sometimes throw a puck bag over Ian's head, and like a scene from Star Wars, teach him to know and feel the crease without looking at it. Later, Ian trained with former pro Stan Matwijiw, who taught "Have a Purpose" (HAP) on the ice and in life. Ian really bought into that and wrote HAP on the inside wrist of his glove.

When the London Knights tapped him, Ian was on the ice. Joel was monitoring the OHL draft on his phone from the stands and he put both his thumbs in the air. Ian circled his net and pumped his fist in pure joy. Joel watched with an apple in his throat. All their dreams were coming true.

On May 19, 2011, the day before Ian was to leave, he



Twenty-four-year-old Kevin Folster needed a kidney. Ian's kidney would save his life.

was hanging with his buddies to say goodbye. He left Joel a message: "Hey, Dad, I'll wait for you at the corner around four o'clock. Love you."

Joel was minutes from the corner when a fire truck whizzed by with an ambulance in its draft. Suddenly, his phone was ringing. Gloria, Ian's mom, was breathing hard into the receiver. Ian had fallen from the back of a pickup and whacked his head on the trailer hitch.

Joel raced to the site and slammed the car into park so hard it almost rocked off its wheels. Ian was lying in the road, foaming at the mouth, and his limbs were contorting. Joel knelt next to him, talking softly. He searched his son's eyes, but he couldn't find him.

Just before midnight, a surgeon sat with the family and told them there was no hope. Joel remembered Ian saying he felt bad for all the kids who didn't have what he had, so the family made a decision. Twenty-four-year-old Kevin Folster needed a kidney. Ian's kidney would save his life.

One of the first things Joel did after Ian's funeral was reach out to Ian's buddy, the sixteen-year-old kid who'd been behind the wheel of the truck. Joel told him, "Accidents happen. You've got to be strong." But nothing's made life easier for Joel — he will always be missing a piece of his own HAP, and he's got a hole in his heart that will never heal. How can it?

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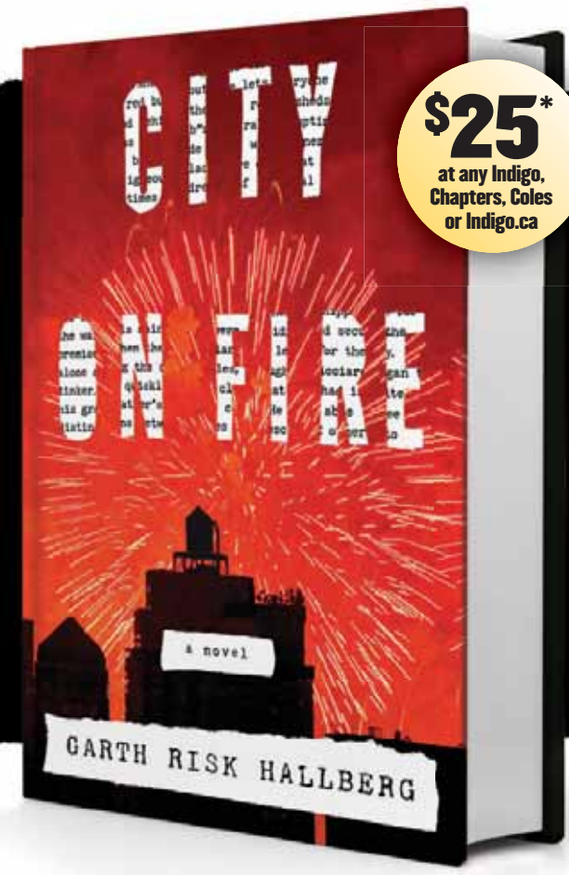

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5 BEST BOOK TO MOVIE ADAPTATIONS

Saying 'I saw the movie' is never a good answer when you're asked 'Have you read this book?' Still, some movies get it pretty close. Here are five to (almost) fake it with:

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 Lord of the Rings

Everyone thought J.R.R. Tolkien's series of books creating the world of the hobbits was unfilmable. It took director Peter Jackson's three blockbuster movies — Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers and The Return of the King — to effectively evoke J.R.R. Tolkien's imaginary world.

2 The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo

The three books in now-deceased author Stieg Larsson's Millennium Series have all been made into movies — and with a new book just out, The Girl in the Spider's Web, carrying on the character of Lisbeth Salander, chances are there'll be a fourth. The first three were made into movies in Swedish; this one is the 2011 remake starring Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara.

3 To Kill a Mockingbird

It's arguable as to which is more famous, the book written by Harper Lee or this movie, starring Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch and directed by Robert Mulligan. Lee did have a hand in writing the screenplay. And, certainly, in people's minds the two are inseparable; try reading the book without hearing Peck's voice, or Scout's either as the adult narrator or as a child.

4 The Commitments

It's the music here that adds so much. Irish writer Roddy Doyle's first book in The Barrytown Trilogy (followed by The Snapper and The Van, which were also made into movies) became an unqualified on-screen success — Mustang Sally, anyone? The unemployed gang of Dublin residents who start up a band is faithful to the book and brings to life the language and the grittiness of the time.

5 Carrie

The movie brings to full technicolour life some of the more graphic scenes in Stephen King's first novel. Carrie was also the first screen adaptation of King's work and it now stands as both a classic book and movie in the horror genre, thanks to director Brian De Palma's eye for making things as scary as possible. Who can forget Sissy Spacek's face when the bucket of blood spilled over her?

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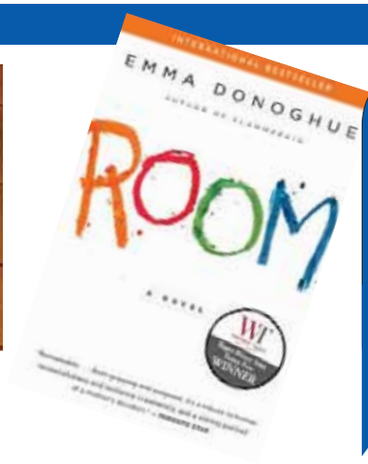
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 21

Emma Donoghue says she's "entirely thrilled" with the film adaptation of her novel Room. CONTRIBUTED



I honestly couldn't say which is better. Once you see the performance of, say, Brie (Larson), she seems more vivid than anything in the book.
Emma Donoghue comparing her book to the film

It's a Room of her own

INTERVIEW

Emma Donoghue had an active hand in bringing her book to film

Writer Emma Donoghue was heavily involved in the making of her wildly popular book Room into what is promising to become an equally popular movie — it won the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival in September. Donoghue, who lives in London, Ont., spoke about adapting a book to a movie.

Not all books are made into movies, nor should they be. And, in fact, whenever your book is optioned you have to say to yourself "this will not turn into an actual film." So you can imagine how thrilled I am that we've actually reached this point and that it's a film I'm so proud of. From my point of view I'm just entirely thrilled with this film so it's a very, very rare and sweet experience for a novelist.

The film was a collaborative effort between you and director Lenny Abrahamson. How did that work for you?
I had drafted a screenplay before anyone came on the scene. I had done that before the novel was published, actually, because I had a strong feeling that Room would work well on screen and I thought I should try my hand at a screenplay before anybody was advising me or asking me about it. So I came to Lenny with a draft which he liked and then he put me through several more drafts. I was getting feedback not just from him but from the producers and various funders.

Did you have to make any compromises you'd rather not have made?
Going into this I already knew that sticking literally and closely to the book is not the way to translate the magic; there's a lot to be said for creating a film on its own terms. I'm a highly enthusiastic cinema-goer and I don't think any writer should go into the business of adapting her own work unless she genuinely finds film just as interesting and worthwhile as books. You shouldn't go in with any kind of snobbery around it.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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The Golden Son rises after Secret Daughter

NEW FROM SHILPI GOWDA

Coming-of-age novel finds son at odds with his birthright

Henrietta Walmark
Metro | Canada

Like her debut bestseller, Secret Daughter, Shilpi Somaya Gowda's new novel, The Golden Son, is a family-based saga that straddles two cultures across two continents.

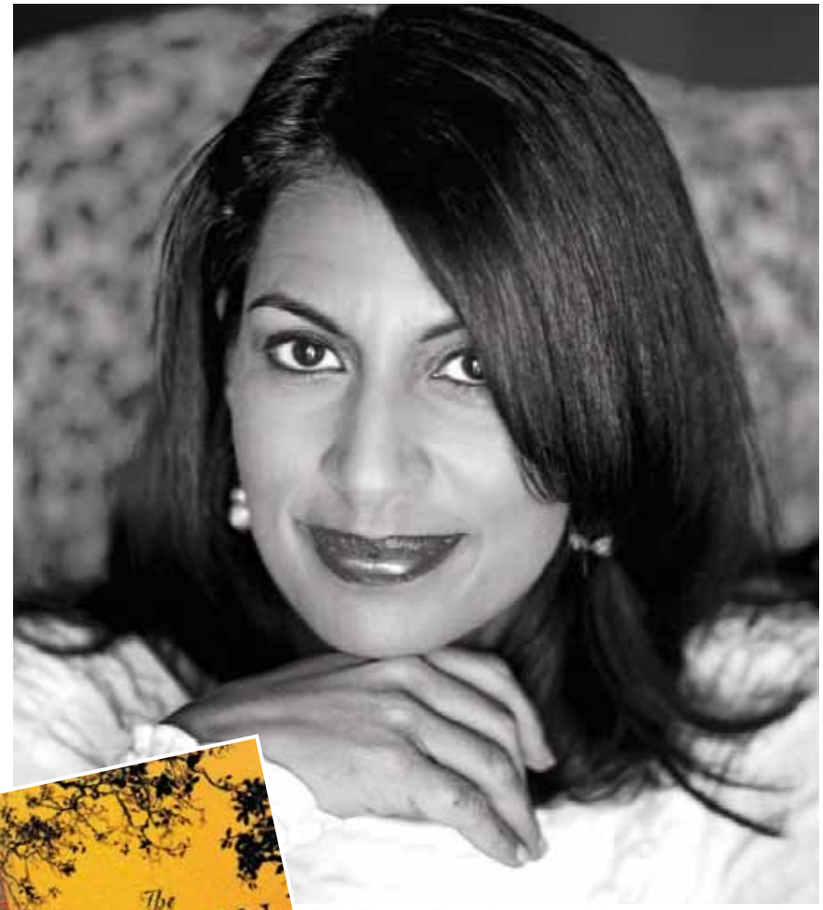
The story of The Golden Son (Harper Collins, $22.99) follows Anil, the doted-on eldest son of a large family in rural India, as he leaves home for America. His closest friend is the free-spirited Leena who bests him at childhood games in their village where Anil's father is clan leader and arbiter of its disputes. Settling disagreements is a role Anil is to inherit and one he struggles to accept as he moves half a world away to begin a medical residency at a large Dallas hospital.

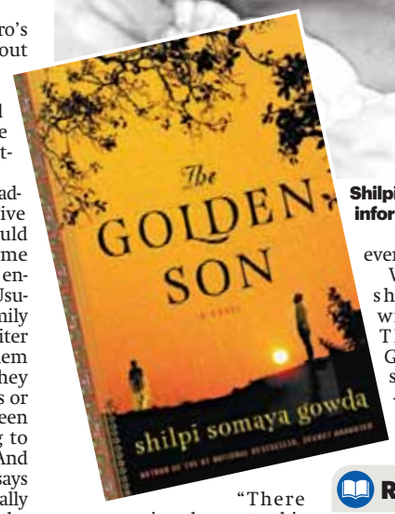
Gowda dropped by Metro's Toronto office to talk about how her sophomore novel was inspired by growing up as a child who witnessed within her own family the practice of informally settling disputes.

"In India there is a long tradition of an Assembly of Five Respected Elders who would adjudicate issues that came before them. That custom endured in different ways. Usually an elder male in the family would be the informal arbiter and people would bring them problems or issues that they had with property disputes or within a marriage or between siblings who were trying to divide up an inheritance. And I just found it fascinating," says Gowda. "As a child I was usually shooed out of the room or the house and told to go ride my bike but I'd listen at the door."

"That experience has always stayed with me. As I grew up and became an adult and started navigating issues in my own life I realized, much to my surprise, grownups don't always have the answers. I was really fascinated by that concept and I wanted to build a story around it."

The tradition of informal arbitration threads through the novel with unexpected repercussions.





Shilpi Somaya Gowda's new novel draws on a tradition of informal dispute resolution. CONTRIBUTED

"There is a danger to this type of setup, when it becomes too paternalistic, too much power concentrated in one person or in one family's hands," says the Toronto-born author.

"I thought it was important for Anil to change the way he viewed his father over time, from a hero worship at the beginning, a very simplistic view, which a lot of us have of our parents, to a more complex adult view that enables him to be better at the role that his father wanted him to play; that there is no black and white and everybody's flawed."

When asked what she hoped readers will take away from The Golden Son, Gowda says: "People surround themselves — and we can do this now with social media and 24-hour news networks — with people who have the same opinions as them. We don't have the same kind of vigorous open debate that we used to have. I hope people will say, 'hey, what did you think about that case,' and 'let's try and see each other's point of view and understand how we make decisions differently.'"

REEL DEAL

Coming to a screen near you

The screen rights to The Golden Son have been optioned to Toronto's Conquering Lion Pictures that produced The Book of Negroes miniseries. Gowda says she's excited about her novel being turned into a film, with a proviso.

"One of my favourite authors, Michael Cunningham, said that when you're an author and you sell the rights to your book, you should think of it as selling a house. You hand over the keys, and you go away. You don't stick around to tell them what colour to paint the front porch and whether to keep the doorknobs," Gowda says, laughing. "That's their job and you've done your job."

"The film will almost certainly be different than what I have in my mind. I look forward to seeing someone else's interpretation."

GOSSIP BRIEFS

The bold and beautiful

Photo editors take note: Zendaya is aware of your touch-ups and she's having none of it. The singer and Disney star spotted some curious discrepancies between her new cover of Modeliste magazine and, well, her real body. "Had a new shoot come out today and was shocked when I found my 19-year-old hips and torso quite manipulated. These are the things that make women self-conscious, that create the unrealistic ideals of beauty that we have," she posted to Instagram. "So I took it upon myself to release the real pic."

The magazine took down the offending photos. NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

What romance?

Don't bother asking Kate Hudson about those pesky dating rumors that link her to Nick Jonas, because she isn't talking. On Watch What Happens Live, Andy Cohen tried to tease confirmation out of her about the much-speculated-about fling, but no dice.

"I don't like addressing any kind of gossipy stuff," Hudson says. "My agent has been my mystery man maybe 25 times. You can't hug someone or talk to someone without it ending up being a thing." So you're saying it's a thing? That's totally a confirmation! NED EHRBAR/METRO HOLLYWOOD

NONSENSE

Philosopher Jaden Smith spouts again

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Young Smith is a lover not a fighter. HANDOUT

Magical second-generation Hollywood quote machine Jaden Smith is back with some wonderful pronouncements, in case you needed a pick-me-up.

In a chat with GQ, Smith admits that he's dedicated to "being, like, one of the craziest human beings to ever exist," so don't worry about offending him when you call him nuts.

"It's fun, bro. That's what a lot of people don't realize," he explains. "I feel like it's an honor, actually, for people to think I'm crazy. Because they thought Galileo was crazy, too, you know what I'm saying? I don't think I'm as revolutionary as Galileo, but I don't think I'm not as revolutionary as Galileo."

He also has aspirations toward cryptic, not quite anonymous altruism, because of course.

"It'll be kind of like Banksy," Smith explains. "But in a different way. More of a social impact. Helping people, but through art installations. It'll be like, 'This just happened that helped a bunch of people over here. We don't know who did it, but these symbols and things were left around, so we can only guess that it's Jaden and the squad.'"

Mixing fame with motherhood

NEW MUSIC

Underwood finds balance on her fifth studio album

Carrie Underwood is pure poise on the red carpet, on stage and on TV — but she's finding it hard to strike a balance these days, she says.

"I think mom guilt is rampant in my life," said Underwood, whose son Isaiah was born in February. "I still constantly wonder, 'Is this fair to him? Is my life fair to him?'"

Underwood, whose new album, Storyteller, is out Friday, knows the exhaustion that comes after being up all night with a fussy baby during album launch week, or the remorse in bidding him goodbye in the morning and knowing she'll be working long after his bedtime.

As she sings in Smoke Break, an ode to the working class that is now in the Top 5 on Billboard's Hot Country Songs chart, it's hard to be a good wife, a good mom and a Christian.

"He's my No. 1 priority," Underwood said. "But it's just a question of how am I going to do this?

"I'll probably never find the answers to those questions."

When she was pregnant and writing songs for Storyteller, she initially wasn't ready to sing about the joys of motherhood. "I would have writing dates with people and they would come in and push me in that direction," Underwood said. "And I was like, 'Eh, no.' I do not want to write an album of mushy baby songs. Or mommy songs. That is not me."

But she did co-write What I Never Knew I Always Wanted, a reflection on the realization that motherhood filled a hole she never knew she had.

For her fifth studio album, she worked with two new producers, Jay Joyce and Zach Crowell, along with her regular producer Mark Bright.

Underwood's new album drops Friday. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Joyce, who won a CMA Award for producing Eric Church's album Chief and is nominated this year for Little Big Town's Pain Killer, brought a dark, rock edge to the album.

"There's definitely some twang on the album," Underwood said. "That almost makes it super fresh compared to a lot of what is out there right now. It's not old, not old country, but it's more traditional."

"She's got so many different facets to her voice," Joyce said. "She's got a really sexy slinky quiet voice, too. She sounds more confident to me." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

Famed architect Zaha Hadid's first NYC residential building has robots that will park your car

What they're a$king

One-bedroom condos are perfect for the first-time buyer looking to get a foot in the door and claim a piece of downtown real estate. Featured here is a range of one-bedroom suites, some older, some newer, to give you a sampling of what's hot on the market this week **Duncan McAllister** FOR METRO

ASKING PRICES WERE ACCURATE AT TIME OF PUBLISHING.

$249,900

Vancouver

For sale is this fully renovated suite at 1065 W. 72nd Ave. that's conveniently located in Marpole, close to transit, shopping, a community centre, Richmond and the downtown. The 661-sq.-ft. floor plan includes a large master bedroom with double closets, an enclosed balcony, plenty of room for a full kitchen table and living-room furniture. The reliable, older building is well maintained with low condo fees. Storage locker and underground parking is included. Listing agent is Keith Roy with RE/Max Select Realty, 604-210-2933.

$314,000

Ottawa

Here's a one-bedroom-plus-den in the Sandy Hill neighbourhood. It features an upgraded kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and boasts great views of downtown from the balcony, as well as an in-suite laundry and building security. Amenities include a party room, swimming pool and a gym. It's walking distance to Ottawa University, the downtown and the market. Listing agent Kelly Millican is a sales representative with Royal LePage Team Realty, 613-729-9090.

$409,900

Halifax

Here's a suite in a new condominium building called Monaghan Square that's conveniently located between Robie and Windsor streets in Halifax West. The 1,146-sq.-ft., one-bedroom-plus-den features an open-concept living-dining room and an office-den, opening out to the bedroom through double French doors. There's a powder room, an ensuite with double sinks and a large walk-in closet. Six stainless steel appliances, underground parking and a storage locker is included. Listing agent is Brenda Mackenzie from Domus Realty, 902-471-0555.

$319,900

Calgary

This new suite is located in a brand-new building called the Guardian. Located on the 17th floor, the unit offers southwest views from the deck, as well as quartz countertops, upgraded laminate flooring and stainless steel appliances. The open-concept floor plan features a spacious kitchen with island in a good-sized living room with access to the deck. Listing agents are Tim Lind and Richard Fleming for RE/Max Real Estate Mountainview, 403-333-0837.

$346,390

Winnipeg

This one-bedroom layout is part of a unique new two-storey loft development in the heart of Osbourne Village. This bright and airy condo will feature floor-to-ceiling windows, open-concept living space and 20-foot ceilings. Colour, finishing and upgrade choices are available. The unit features stainless steel appliances, in-suite laundry, a building security system and underground secured parking. Listing agent Darryl Walsh is a sales representative with Royal LePage Dynamic Real Estate, 204-297-0860.

$599,000

Toronto

Just listed is this truly unique ground-floor waterfront loft-style condo, with views of the lake and fronting onto a park. The suite features an open-concept space with 10-foot ceilings, heated floors and a large 370-sq.-ft. terrace. There's also 274 sq. ft. of loft storage and two separate entrances, as well as six high-end appliances. It's the perfect urban retreat, says listing agent Maria Ursini with RE/Max Condos Plus, 416-203-6636.

$174,900

Edmonton

This one-bedroom condo suite is located in the Centurian Tower and is perfect for both first-time buyers and investors. The unit features a large living room, a large bedroom, a galley kitchen and four-piece bathroom. It's located on the sixth floor and has a west-facing view. The unit includes one assigned parking stall and a storage room on the same floor. Brent Macintosh is a sales representative with RE/Max River City, 780-464-0075.

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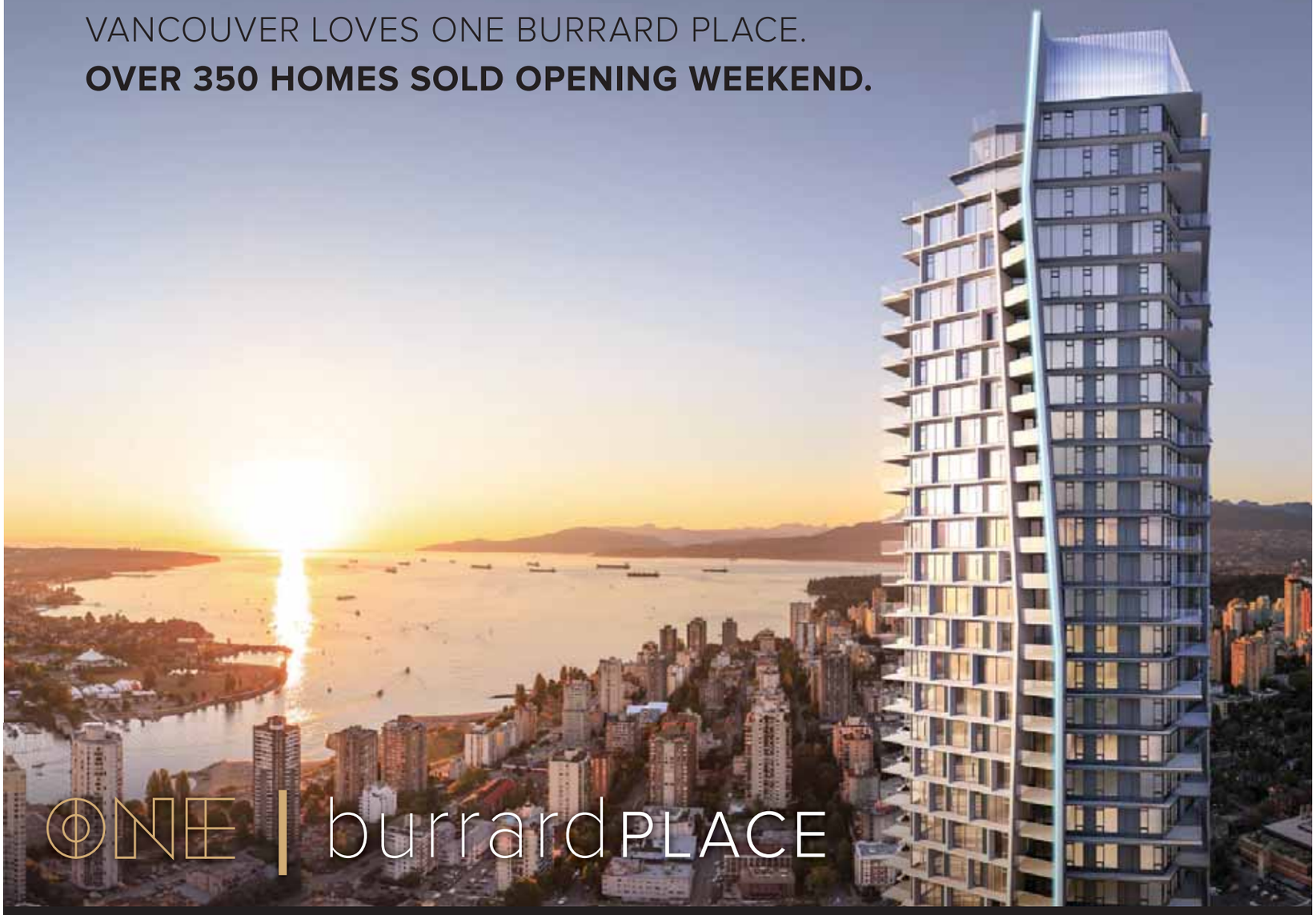

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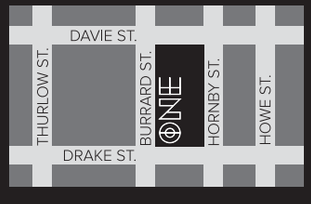

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Home inspiration away from home

The Captain's Cabin room at NYC's Jane Hotel. Its panelled walls, patterned wallpaper and carpeting give the room an ageless Bohemian feel.

DESIGN CENTRE

Victorian meets Bohemian at The Jane Hotel in NYC

Karl Lohnes
For Metro Canada

I often get decor inspiration from my travels and the hotels I stay at. I was recently inspired by the Victorian/Bohemian mix seen at The Jane Hotel in New York City. Pattern, colour and a return to tradition seem to be hot decorating buzzwords lately, and The Jane has subscribed to all of those — done in a timeless manner that suits its historical building site while standing guard over the Hudson River on the Big Apple's west side.

The majority of The Jane's rooms are tiny budget-conscious spaces adorned with wood panel and resemble train cabins more than actual rooms. There are larger rooms with private baths called Captain's Cabins with views of the river and adjoining outdoor terraces.

Although traditional in style, there is nothing "grandmotherly" about this hotel's style. If you like the look then here are some current marketplace products available to help you achieve the look at home.

($125-$395/night, TheJaneNYC.com)

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Get the look

1 Chelsea Swing-Arm Sconce
Wall-hung lamps help save space on a small nightstand and offer the perfect height of light for reading. $181, PotteryBarn.com

2 Pendleton Green Wallpaper
Wallpaper has made its comeback — so the walls at The Jane Hotel have been on trend for the past 100 years! $24/roll, Graham-Brown.com

3 Colour: Blue Stream
Painting all mouldings a colour (rather than predicable white) helps to set a historical tone to the room. BenjaminMoore.ca

4 Small Decorated Metal Table
Exotic touches help create a well-travelled style throughout the space. $149, ZaraHome.com

5 Lace Frill Bedspread & Pillowcase
Add a splash of colour to the room with a bed cover that can easily be changed with the seasons. $36-$160, ZaraHome.com

6 Safavieh Heritage Area Rug
Patterned carpeting evokes hotel luxuries of yesteryear — the perfect solution for keeping a room cozy while standing up to wear and tear. $370/5'x8', Lowes.ca

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Taking the risk out of the Cloud

SAFETY

Tips to protect your business from data breaches

Marc Saltzman

Cloud services aren't 100 per cent risk-free. Protect yourself and your sensitive information. CONTRIBUTED

Canadian businesses are in the cloud.

And why wouldn't they be? Cloud services provide off-site protection from local hazards, such as fire, flood, viruses and other malicious software, theft, or a damaging power surge, to name a few threats.

Staff members can access files anywhere, any time, on virtually any device. Cloud services often support real-time collaboration with colleagues, plus it's an easy way to share large files without clogging up someone's inbox.

But cloud services aren't 100 per cent risk-free. While rare, data breaches do happen.

Here's how to help mitigate risk:

Stronger passwords

While it sounds like a no brainer, the first step is to create a strong password no one could possibly guess.

A good password is at least seven characters long and has a combination of letters, numbers, symbols and mixes upper and lower cases. Example: !Rw47#p

Because it can be a pain to remember, some security experts say you can also create a long word string instead, such as "slidingdowntheblueslideslowly!" as an example.

Or you can opt for an app or program that randomly generates tough passwords you can copy and paste into your cloud provider or automatically logs you in.

On a related note, be sure to have a password or PIN on all your devices, as well — be it a smartphone, tablet or laptop — just in case you lose it or if it's stolen. This provides a second layer of defense. Some devices allow for biometrics security, too, such as fingerprint or facial recognition.

Two-step verification

Many cloud providers offer a smart security feature called "two-step verification" or "two-step authentication."

Optional, but recommended, this adds an extra layer of protection to your cloud account as it not only requires your password to log in, but also a randomly-generated, one-time security code sent to your mobile phone (via text message or displayed in an app).

Type in the code once and your password will give you access to your files.

It won't likely be on default, so you'll need to enter the Settings/Options menu to enable it.

Public access tips

One of the advantages of the cloud is being able to log on from anywhere to access your data — but be very cautious when using a public PC, such as in an airport lounge, library, cybercafé, and so on.

For one, there could be "key-logging" software installed that secretly records everything typed onto the keyboard — including your login ID and password — and sends the information to a tech-savvy thief. Tip: if you must log into your cloud account, pull up the "soft" (virtual) keyboard instead.

Also, remember not to click "Remember my password," if the browser gives you the option and be sure to log out afterwards.

Better yet, resist logging in from a public PC or while in a free Wi-Fi hotspot as it could be a fake. Use your cellular connection on your own device as a Personal Hotspot, if you can.

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Taking the fear out of digitizing

EMBRACE IT

Technology that can actually improve your business

Vawn Himmelsbach

Small business owners should start with the basics like updating their website. ISTOCK

Small business owners can be intimidated by the vast array of tech tools out there, from mobile to social and cloud. They may not have a dedicated IT staff or the budget for major investments, or they may just feel overwhelmed by the constant onslaught of new technologies.

"Even with pressures to compete on a global stage, a lot of SMBs in Canada really sell in a very local market," said Jim Westcott, research manager with IDC Canada. "They depend on repeat customers from a defined geography."

That means small business owners should start with the basics, such as updating their website. Many SMBs have static websites that haven't been updated in years, said Westcott. So they should refresh their content, enable commerce capabilities and ensure they have a social presence (such as Twitter and Facebook icons) so customers can connect and interact with the business in real time.

Technology is also being used to run the business, from the supply chain to customer management. The first step is to look at the business issue, and then consider how that issue can be addressed with technology — rather than buying technology for technology's sake.

IDC is seeing more SMBs take advantage of software-as-a-service (SaaS), where they purchase an application or software solution as a hosted or on-demand service — similar to paying for a monthly magazine subscription. SaaS falls under the broader umbrella of cloud computing; examples of SaaS include Dropbox, Salesforce.com and QuickBooks, as well as Microsoft Office 365.

The benefit of SaaS is that small business owners don't have to worry about updates or security patches; those are done automatically. And many SaaS vendors offer free trial versions, to try before you buy. But SaaS is not a panacea.

"Don't forget that information is still on someone's server somewhere," said John Carson, founder of Herb Communications. "People forget that. [The cloud] can still fail and can still get hacked."

Carson helps companies build their brand, but he's also a small business owner himself and is constantly testing out new technologies. He uses Google Drive to store his files, as well as FreshBooks for cloud-based accounting, but he also uses external backup so he's not completely reliant on the cloud. "When you're a small business, information is your life blood," he said. "You have to protect it."

While storage and backup is critical, small businesses don't have to jump on every new technology that comes to market.

If you're in manufacturing, you may want a 3D printer for prototyping. "But if you're in a software- or service-based business, what do you need a 3D printer for? Absolutely nothing," said Duncan Stewart, director of technology, media and telecommunications research for Deloitte Canada. The same goes for drones. If you're a farmer who wants to find his cows at night with an infrared camera, a drone might be useful, but for many small business owners it's irrelevant.

Steps for a successful sale

Business owners give the best years of their lives to build a successful enterprise. But with retirement approaching they must start planning for the next stage.

It's not the easiest decision to make, but some of you may conclude that selling your business to a third party is the most suitable next step given your circumstances.

The sale of a business should be central to every business owner's operational culture, says Orangeville, Ont.-based Tom Deans, an entrepreneur-turned-speaker whose family has successfully sold businesses worth more than $100 million. "An owner ought to be building it to be sold from the day a business is incorporated," he says. "This means building businesses that are not so reliant on the owner's direct involvement in operations."

Owners should allow themselves three to five years to plan and prepare before putting their business up for sale. Take necessary measures to make your business valuable to a potential buyer, says Deans. "When you know how someone else will place a value on your business, an owner will run a completely different, meaning vastly more profitable, business," he says.

Here are some of key planning steps to prime a business, make it attractive to potential buyers and get the maximum return from its sale.

Tom Deans. CONTRIBUTED

Bulk up profits and cash flow

Healthy cash flow means having money in the bank that can be reinvested in the business to support future growth.

"Free cash flow is a really important metric," says Deans. "Every business owner should know what their free cash flow is. Cash is king and free cash is what buyers love."

Free cash flow — expressed as EBITDA, or earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization – can matter even more than sales figures.

Be financially transparent

A company's financial statements — annual income statements and balance sheets, etc. — are the most reliable indicators of its future performance. The more comfortable a buyer feels with your financial information, the greater the perceived value of your business.

Deans says to offer at least three to five years worth of financial history. "If a business has a terrific 20-year story of top-line sales and profit growth then sellers should provide that information," he adds.

It is recommended that business owners create an Offering Memorandum Booklet, which lists financial and non-financial information on the history of the business, and contains future projections.

Manage and mitigate risk perception

The risk equation is simple: the greater the perceived risk, the lower the price buyers willing to pay. Every business operation is unique, but there are general red flags that tend to increase buyers' risk perception.

Deans says the perception of risk is greater if "a businesses is too dependent on the owner for operational success, has more than 25 per cent of sales revenue tied to one customer," and is faced with the threat of "technology that will make your product or service obsolete."

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metro SPORTS

Troy Tulowitzki's 11 RBIs are second only to Paul Molitor (13 in 1993) among Blue Jays in a single post-season

Estrada carries Jays back to K.C.

Marco Estrada's performance on Wednesday kept Toronto alive to play at least one more game. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB PLAYOFFS

Royals look to finish ALCS with win in Game 6 Friday

Marco Estrada can count on striking it rich as a free agent in the off-season. Wherever he ends up, the Blue Jays will still owe him big-time.

For the second time in the post-season, the 32-year-old right-hander kept Toronto alive — this time with a gem of a pitching performance in a 7-1 win over Kansas City that forced a sixth game in their American League Championship Series.

Estrada was near flawless in limiting the Royals to one hit over seven innings and three over 7-2/3 innings.

"Everything he threw up there was right where he wanted it," said Toronto manager John Gibbons.

"He had everything going. He's sticking that fastball, nice little curveball, and his overpowering changeup. He shut down a good-hitting, hot team."

Estrada retired the first nine Kansas City batters he faced. A single in the fourth — promptly erased by a double play — and a two-out walk in the seventh were the only blemishes on his pitching line in the first seven innings as he retired 21 of 22.

He exited in the eighth to a standing ovation after giving up a two-out solo homer to Salvador Perez followed by a single to Alex Gordon.

"Today he was absolutely dynamite," said Royals manager Ned Yost. "He didn't miss spots. His changeup was fantastic. He just didn't give us anything to hit."

ALCS Game 5

The Royals still hold an edge going home, leading the best-of-seven series 3-2. The teams go at it Friday in Kauffman Stadium, with Toronto's David Price likely facing Yordano Ventura in a rematch of Game 2, won 6-3 by the Royals.

Game 7 is Saturday, if needed.

Troy Tulowitzki drove in three runs in a four-run Toronto sixth and Chris Colabello contributed a solo homer in the second before a loud crowd of 49,325 under the dome at the Rogers Centre.

"It's been a while since I pitched here, and I forgot how great our fans were," said Estrada. "It was pretty loud today. I had a lot of adrenalin going."

Estrada is the first Toronto pitcher to throw seven consecutive shutout innings in a post-season game since Jimmy Key in Game 4 of the 1992 World Series

Still, with the Royals having the edge going home, Yost said his team is feeling good.

"We knew it was going to be a tough series," he said. "But after winning the first two games, in reality your goal is to come to Toronto — kind of a foreign environment, a hostile environment — and at least win one. Then you get to go home and win one there and the series is over."

Tulowitzki, whose once cold bat has warmed up nicely, accounted for most of the offence by clearing the bases with a double in a four-run sixth.

The Jays shortstop, still feeling the effects of a late-season shoulder injury, came into the game hitting just .194 (7-for-36) but he has been a game-changer with the bat in three of Toronto's post-season outings. And despite playing in pain, he has been a big contributor to the defence.

Tulowitzki set a club record for most RBIs in a single ALCS (seven). THE CANADIAN PRESS

NLCS

Mets advance to World Series with sweep of Cubs

Daniel Murphy homered in his record sixth straight post-season game and the New York Mets reached the World Series for the first time in 15 years, beating the Chicago Cubs 8-3 Wednesday night for a playoff sweep.

Manager Terry Collins' team never trailed for a single inning in taking all four games in the NL Championship Series.

New York is seeking its first title since 1986.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Blue Jackets hire ex-Canucks coach Tortorella

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

John Tortorella is back coaching in the National Hockey League less than two years after the Vancouver Canucks fired him at the conclusion of an unsuccessful and turbulent 2013-14 season.

The Columbus Blue Jackets, off to a horrendous 0-7 start this season, announced Wednesday that they relieved Todd Richards of his head coaching duties and hired Tortorella to take over.

Tortorella is signed to a three-year contract, through to the end of the 2017-18 season, according to the Blue Jackets.

Because the hiring of Tortorella was made mid-season, the Canucks get a second-round draft pick as compensation. Pierre LeBrun of ESPN and TSN reported that Columbus has until June 1 to decide if that pick is for the 2016 draft, or in 2017 or 2018.

Tortorella lasted one season in Vancouver.

The Canucks, a team ravaged by injury that season, missed the playoffs under his tenure and Tortorella was dismissed by newly hired president Trevor Linden.

Tortorella's time in Vancouver was brief but eventful.

It culminated with a six-game suspension for charging toward the Calgary Flames dressing room in the intermission to get at coach Bob Hartley following a line brawl right off the opening faceoff in the first period during a game at Rogers Arena on Jan. 18 of that season.

The Canucks are on the road to face Tortorella and the Blue Jackets on Nov. 10.

The two teams meet again at Rogers Arena on Feb. 4.

John Tortorella won the Stanley Cup with the Tampa Bay Lightning in 2004, as well as the Jack Adams Award. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver must improve before defining stretch

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Ronnie Shuker

Well, that wasn't how the Canucks wanted to start their five-game homestand. And the news doesn't get any better. In fact, it could get much worse for Vancouver.

After losses to St. Louis and Edmonton last week, the Canucks could go winless on this homestand, with games against Washington, Detroit and Montreal to finish it off. That wouldn't necessarily be the death of their season, but the coup de grace could come shortly thereafter if they set themselves up to fail for what will be the most crucial part of their season.

Following this homestand, the Canucks play 13 of 17 games on the road, which will take them into December. (Looking all the way to the Christmas break, they play 19 of 27 on the road.) If there's a section of their schedule that will make or break their season, this is it.

Oilers goaltender Anders Nilsson makes a save against Sven Baertschi on Sunday. BEN NELMS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The good news about all of this is that the first part of this stretch includes very winnable games in Arizona, Buffalo, New Jersey, Columbus and Toronto. The bad news is that the second part takes them through Minnesota, Dallas, Anaheim and Los Angeles.

There's no need to panic, but there is need for urgency. The Canucks have to come away with nine or 10 wins in this 17-game stretch if they want to stay in the thick of the Pacific Division race. San Jose has already shot out of the gates, and L.A. and Anaheim are beginning to show signs of picking up the pace after slow starts to their seasons. If the plucky Flames and promising Oilers get it going, the Canucks could find themselves on the outside looking in if they lay a dozen or so eggs on this brutal stretch of road games.

Vancouver was one of the best teams in the NHL on the road last season, with a 24-14-3 record away from Rogers Arena, so there is reason for optimism. And teams will often tell you they like to get long road swings out of the way early, because players are freshest physically early in the season, and road trips like these often have the added benefit of helping teams bond and form an identity.

So it all isn't doom and gloom. But this next month-and-a-half is about as close as it'll get to do or die for the Canucks this season.

NHL

Canucks 'kid line' looks to quickly gel

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

All indications suggest the recently christened Kid Line of Sven Baertschi, the oldest at aged 23, Bo Horvat and Jake Virtanen, the youngest at age 19, will remain intact when the Vancouver Canucks host the Washington Capitals on Thursday.

Formed toward the end of the pre-season with instant results, the trio was reunited for Sunday's game — an overtime loss to the Edmonton Oilers — and all three have remained together at practice this week.

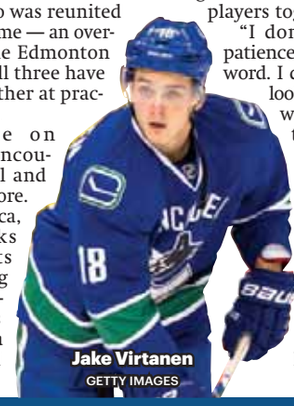
They were on the ice for Vancouver's only goal and could've had more.

Hockeystats.ca, which tracks shot attempts for measuring puck possession, shows all three had a positive Corsi For rating at even strength. Virtanen was held below 10 minutes of ice time and Baertschi came in just over that at 10:29.

"I think it's going to take some time though," Baertschi said Wednesday. "I think there's some getting to know each other on the ice to do."

Head coach Willie Desjardins has tried a number of different line combinations early on, but how patient is he willing to be with three young players together?

"I don't know if patience is the right word. I don't think I look at, 'Oh, I'm waiting to take them apart or bring them out.' I think they're good players and I think you just watch and see how they play as a unit," said Desjardins.



Jake Virtanen
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RECIPE Corn Pancakes

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

What's better than breakfast for dinner? Some days, nothing beats the ease and speed of hearty, savoury pancakes.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 cup frozen corn
- 2 eggs, separated
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil, plus a bit for the pan
- 2 cups buttermilk (or 2 Tbsp vinegar added to regular milk)
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 1/2 cups corn meal
- 4 scallions, trimmed, chopped

Directions
1. Pour frozen corn into a bowl to thaw as you prepare the rest of the recipe
2. Beat egg whites into soft peaks and set aside.
3. Blend egg yolks, oil and buttermilk well.
4. Mix flour, cornmeal, baking soda, baking powder, salt and sugar.
5. Combine wet and dry ingredients and add corn and scallions. Gently fold in egg whites. Let stand 10 minutes before cooking.
6. Heat a small amount of vegetable oil in a pan at just above medium. Pour 1/4 cup of batter per pancake into the pan, cook until you see bubbles along the edges, flip and cook for a minute or two on the other side. Serve with a salad or steamed veggies for dinner!

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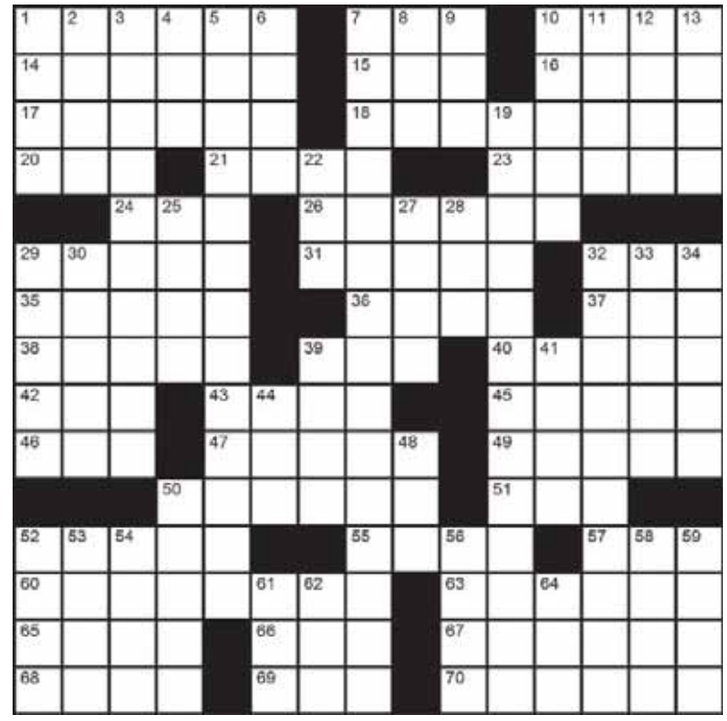
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Lake __, in Banff National Park
7. Soldiers Joe and Jane
10. Hawk
14. About [abbr.]
15. Parisian tap liquid
16. __-dokie
17. Spice mixture of India
18. Bikini alternative
20. Will Smith movie
21. Mr. Sharif
23. Puff __ (Type of viper)
24. Hoover __
26. "Maybe...": 2 wds.
29. Words to live by
31. Heads: French
32. NBA's Rockets, on scoreboards
35. Shade of green
36. Collaborative website name prefix
37. Smartphone add-on
38. In the midst of
39. French seasoning
40. Paddled
42. Use a needle and thread
43. Cheers!
45. Elaine __ ("Taxi" role for Marilu Henner)
46. Bart, to Homer
47. Segments
49. Chasm
50. Press down the pill bottle's cap: 2 wds.
51. Tic-__-Toe
52. Murdered
55. Memo
57. Knock the door
60. More than enough
63. Safe
65. And others [abbr.]: 2 wds.
66. Superlative suffix
67. 'Proud Heritage, Bright Future' town in Ontario
68. Goes off course
69. Alphabet's last letter, to a Canadian
70. Sportswear brand

DOWN
1. The Dalai __
2. October's birthstone
3. 1980 disco hit for Diana Ross that goes "Instinctively you give to me / The love that I need...": 2 wds.
4. Rosemary's Baby novelist Mr. Levin
5. Villain in "Superman's Song" by Crash Test Dummies: 2 wds.
6. Test
7. Bread, Grocery Stores... Canadian company founded in 1882: __ __ __.
8. Sir McKellen
9. Go to court
10. Annuls
11. Just barely got by
12. Kind
13. "The __ Hunter" (1978)
19. CBC documentaries program, "The __ __"
22. River islet
25. Gulf of __ (It's between Somalia and Yemen)
27. Gas or elec., e.g.
28. "Vampire bat!"
29. Elegance
30. Lothario
32. John Candy is a private investigator in 1989 comedy "Who's __ __?"
33. Opinionated newspaper columns
34. Beehives, at the salon
39. Transport
41. Rhyming scheme
44. Anecdotal collection
48. __-Cat (Ski hill machine)
50. Markets
52. Adhere
53. Greek salad cheese
54. Imperfection
56. Bygone sovereign
58. Prefix that means 'Mars'
59. Added benefit
61. "That '70s Show" role
62. Expend
64. NFL's Browns city, shortened

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
A snap decision is called for and there is no way of knowing how it will turn out. The worst thing you can do is to make no decision at all, so call it as you see it and hope for the best.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There will be a number of obstacles placed in your path. Although they may be annoying they won't be too serious, so don't overreact. With the Sun moving into your opposite sign tomorrow, the less hassle the better.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Work and health matters will take on extra importance. Think deeply about what you are doing and the effect it is having on your physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The Sun's move into the dynamic area of your chart will coincide with a surge of confidence, and because you look at life in a more positive way others will be more upbeat too.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will face several challenges. The most important of these will be to find out why partners and loved ones are suddenly so hard to get along with. Could it be because they feel a bit neglected?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Money matters worry you less beginning tomorrow. If you get the urge to travel don't resist it. A journey of just a few miles could lead to something special.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't worry if something important is leaving your life because something better will replace it. Everything in life tends to balance itself out: a Libra of all people should know that.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The Sun's move into your birth sign marks the start of a new solar year, so by all means go out and celebrate. An evening spent with loved ones will put you in the right frame of mind. Do something special over the weekend.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You would like nothing better than to live in your own little world for a while. So why don't you? You can be as anti-social as you please.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Are you doing something useful with your life? Does your existence make a difference? However you answer those questions you will get the chance to do a good deed over the next 48 hours.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is no time to be cautious. Don't sit back waiting for opportunities to come to you. With your persuasive talents you can easily get people in positions of power to favour you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
The Sun is moving into one of the most adventurous areas of your chart. Take full advantage. If you get the chance to travel don't hesitate, just pack your bag and go.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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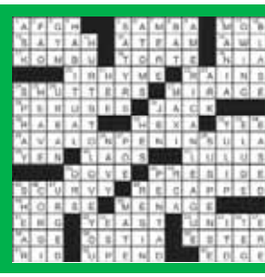

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